

August 25, 2009

WASHINGTON, DC - U.S. Rep. Michael Arcuri (NY-24) hosted 15 constituents in his downtown Utica office today for one-on-one, face-to-face meetings to discuss health care reform. Arcuri's office hours serve to complement town hall, telephone town hall, group meetings and other meeting formats he's utilizing this month to hear directly from Upstate New Yorkers regarding their thoughts and opinions on the topic of health care reform.

"Getting the opportunity to sit down with constituents and meet face-to-face is helpful for me as I get to interact on a more personal level and gain valuable feedback," **Arcuri said**. "I want to continue my open door policy and allow constituents to set up time to sit with me and discuss health care reform or any other federal issue on their minds. I look forward to continued debate throughout the district and welcome feedback from everyone."

Arcuri's office hours in Utica today lasted from 12:30pm to 4:30pm and involved meeting with several constituents from around the Mohawk Valley. Each constituent had a 15-minute meeting with Arcuri face-to-face regarding health care reform legislation pending in Congress.

"I'm constantly seeking out ways to communicate with my constituents because I need to hear from them to do my job the best I can," **Arcuri said**. "I've hosted over twenty town hall style meetings, two telephone town halls and countless group meetings since February, and these one-on-one meetings are just another meeting format I'll continue to use so I can hear directly from as many people as possible."

Constituents set up this time to meet with Arcuri by logging onto his web site: www.arcuri.house.gov and clicking on the "Meet with Mike" function. Some constituents also called Arcuri's Utica office directly to schedule a meeting. Arcuri previously hosted office hours with constituents in his Cortland office earlier this month and plans to host other constituent meetings before Congress reconvenes in September.

Arcuri recently held a town hall meeting at Mohawk Valley Community College where over 450 local residents attended and discussed health care reform. In addition, Arcuri recently held a telephone town hall meeting with over 7,000 seniors from across the district regarding health care reform. Arcuri is in the process of scheduling additional town hall meetings for later this month.

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